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FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC

TO RUEALGX/SAFE

INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC

RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC

RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC

RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC

RUEDADA/AFIS AMHS BOLLING AFB DC

RUETIAQ/MPCFTGEORGEGMEAEMD

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC

RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC

RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CARA//

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RUEAHQA/HQ AFIA WASHINGTON DC//INO/INK//

RUEDADA/HQ AFIA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC//INI//

RUCIAEA/HQ FTD WRIGHT PATTISON AFB OH//SCIS/SDMSS//

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RUHQIPA/COMIPAC HONOLULU HI//PA//

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RUADJHA/500TH MIBDE CP ZAMA JA//IAGPD-OP-R/IAGPD-ASD//

RUHJWYA/13AF INTELLIGENCE CLARK AB RP//IN//

RUEHRH/USDAO RIYADH SAUDI ARABIA

RUEHBJ/USDAO BEIJING CH

RUEHHK/USDAO HONG KONG HK

RUEHKO/USDAO TOKYO JA

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CONTROLS

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BODY

COUNTRY: CHINA (CH); SAUDI ARABIA (SA).

SUBJ: IIR / CHINESE ATTEMPTS TO SELL SATELLITE
LAUNCHING SERVICES TO AND ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SAUDI
ARABIA

WARNING: THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED
INTELLIGENCE.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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SUMMARY: THIS REPORT PROVIDES INFORMATION ON RECENT RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND SAUDI ARABIA, INCLUDING CHINA'S OFFERING OF SATELLITE LAUNCH SERVICES, POST-SALES SERVICE FOR CSS MISSILES SOLD TO SAUDI ARABIA, AND MOVES TO ESTABLISH BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA.

TEXT:

1. CHINA AND SAUDI ARABIA, WHILE MOVING TOWARD THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FORMAL BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, HAVE DISPLAYED ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS SORTS. AS FOR ONE SUCH ACTIVITY, IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1988, CHINA SOLD DONGFANG MISSILES

Deleted per 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(1) TO SAUDI ARABIA. AFTER THIS SALE, CHINA DISPATCHED A MILITARY ADVISORY GROUP TO RIYADH TO ASSIST WITH MISSILE MAINTENANCE CONTROL AND OPERATIONAL TRAINING. THIS SORT OF ACTIVITY IS EVIDENCE OF EXTREMELY CLOSE RELATIONS DEVELOPING BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. THESE ONGOING ACTIVITIES TRIGGER CLOSER BILATERAL TIES AND WILL MAKE CHINA CONCLUDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IS IMMINENT.

2. THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA, CONSIGNING THE MATTER TO THE ARAB SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, HAS BEEN PROCEEDING WITH PLANS TO HAVE CHINA LAUNCH ITS SATELLITE *ARABSAT 1C) USING THE LONG MARCH (LM) ROCKET AS THE LAUNCH VEHICLE. THE COMMITTEE HAS ALREADY SIGNED A SATELLITE LAUNCH SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE CHINA GREAT WALL INDUSTRY CORP WHICH IS UNDER THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF AERO-SPACE INDUSTRY. THE LAUNCH PRICE WAS 25 MILLION USD - A BARGAIN PRICE THAT TOOK SAUDI ARABIA BY SURPRISE. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER THE SATELLITE SAUDI ARABIA IS PLANS TO HAVE LAUNCHED WILL BE OF CHINESE MANUFACTURE OR BE ONE MANUFACTURED UNDER CONSIGNMENT BY FRANCE; AT ANY RATE, IT WILL BE A THIRD GENERATION SATELLITE. THE SATELLITE, A COMMUNICATION SATELLITE (COMSAT), WILL BE LAUNCHED IN 1991. THIS SATELLITE LAUNCH IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN A JOINT MILITARY ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN CHINA AND SAUDI ARABIA, AS WAS THE DONGFANG MISSILES SALE.

3. A TRADE DELEGATION THAT CHINA DISPATCHED TO SAUDI ARABIA HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE. IT HAS SURPASSED THE SCOPE OF ECONOMIC AND FOREIGN TRADE EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES - VENTURING OUT INTO POLITICAL, DIPLOMATIC, AND MILITARY MATTERS.

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